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SPIDER-MAN
AND HIS AMAZING FRIENDS!
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DAREDEVIL
IN HIS STRANGEST ADVENTURE!
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
YES, WE DID... WE DARED TO PUBLISH THIS, THE MOST OFFBEAT STORY OF THE YEAR!

where angels fear to tread

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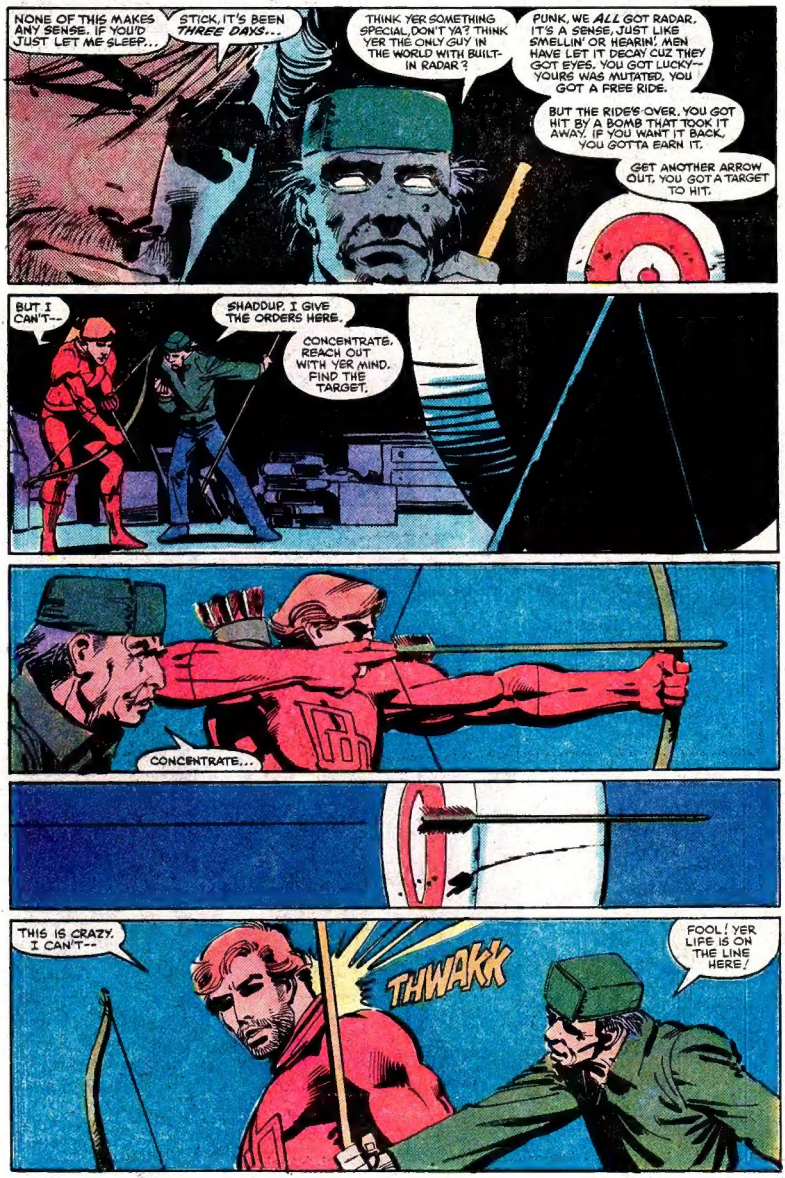

NONE OF THIS MAKES ANY SENSE. IF YOU'D JUST LET ME SLEEP...
STICK, IT'S BEEN THREE DAYS...
THINK YER SOMETHING SPECIAL, DON'T YA? THINK YER THE ONLY GUY IN THE WORLD WITH BUILT-IN RADAR?
PUNK, WE ALL GOT RADAR. IT'S A SENSE, JUST LIKE SMELLIN' OR HEARIN'. MEN HAVE LET IT DECAY CUZ THEY GOT EYES. YOU GOT LUCKY-- YOURS WAS MUTATED. YOU GOT A FREE RIDE.
BUT THE RIDE'S OVER. YOU GOT HIT BY A BOMB THAT TOOK IT AWAY. IF YOU WANT IT BACK, YOU GOTTA EARN IT.
GET ANOTHER ARROW OUT. YOU GOT A TARGET TO HIT.
BUT I CAN'T--
SHADDUP. I GIVE THE ORDERS HERE.
CONCENTRATE. REACH OUT WITH YER MIND. FIND THE TARGET.
CONCENTRATE...
THIS IS CRAZY. I CAN'T--
THWAKK
FOOL! YER LIFE IS ON THE LINE HERE!

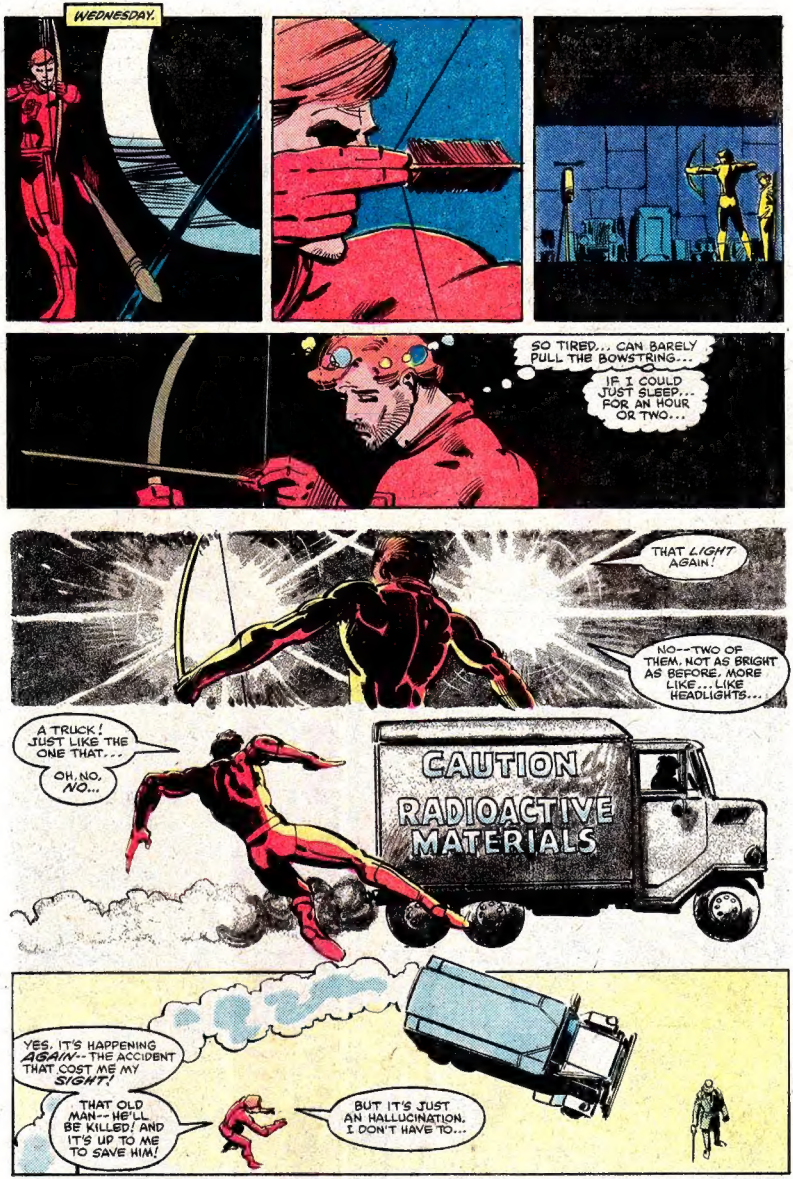
MY LIFE? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
NEVER MIND. JUST CLEAR YOUR MIND OF EVERYTHING.
IT'S JUST YOU AND THAT TARGET...
I--I'M TRYING...
IT'S JUST SO HARD...
WHA'?
A LIGHT, BRIGHT AS THE SUN... AND I...
I CAN SEE IT!
STICK--WHAT'S GOING ON? HOW CAN I...
WHERE'D YOU GO?
WHAT THE DEVIL? MY BOW, IT'S...
A BASEBALL BAT!?
MY OLD BAT--THE ONE I USED TO PLAY WITH, WHEN I WAS A KID...
NO, MATT! YOU WON'T PLAY!
THAT VOICE--
YOU'LL STUDY!
YOU'LL STUDY EVERY CHANCE YOU GET, HEAR?

DAD! BUT YOU'RE DEAD...
I PROMISED YOUR MOMMA BEFORE SHE...BEFORE SHE DIED... THAT I WOULDN'T LET YOU GROW UP TO BE AN UNEDUCATED PUG LIKE ME.
NOW YOU HAVE TO PROMISE ME SOMETHING, SON. PROMISE ME YOU'LL STUDY EVERY CHANCE YOU GET, THAT YOU'LL BE A DOCTOR OR A LAWYER ...SOMEBODY IMPORTANT!
PROMISE ME YOU'LL BE THE SOMEBODY I NEVER COULD...
MAKE ME PROUD OF YOU, SON.
THAT'S ALL I'VE EVER WANTED, DAD.
I'VE TRIED...
GOOD BOY.
NOW JUST LET ME CHAIN YOU TO THESE BOOKS...
OFF TO YOUR ROOM, NOW.
STUDY HARD, HEAR?
THOK
NAW... OL' "DAREDEVIL" CAN'T PLAY. HE'S GOTTA READ.
YEAH, "DAREDEVIL" MURDOCK, HE'S GONNA BE A LAWYER, AIN'T HE? REAL BOOK SMART.
HEY--MATTIE BOY! Y'WANNA COME OUT AND PLAY?
Y'KNOW WHY WE CALL YA "DAREDEVIL," MURDOCK?

IT'S CUZ YER SO BRAVE!
TAKES A LOTTA NERVE, OPENING UP THEM BIG, SCARY BOOKS!
WHATSAMATTER, MURDOCK?
TOO GOOD FER US?
YEAH, THAT'S IT! MATTIE BOY THINKS HE'S TOO GOOD TO PLAY WITH THE GUYS!
'ZAT TRUE, WIMP?
LET GO OF ME!
LET GO!
HALLUCINATED, JUST AS I WAS TAKING THAT LAST SHOT, RELIVED A PROMISE TO MY FATHER THAT I MADE AS A CHILD.
THAT PROMISE MADE MY CHILDHOOD A MISERY, STICK. THE NEIGHBORHOOD KIDS RIDICULED ME HORRIBLY, MADE ME SO ANGRY...
ALL THE THINGS THAT'VE MADE YOU FEEL THAT WAY...THEY'RE OBSTACLES IN YER MIND, KEEPIN' IT FROM WORKIN' RIGHT, KEEPIN' YOU FROM HITTING THE TARGET.
YOU GOTTA DIG DEEPER NOW, MATT. YOU GOTTA FACE THE ENEMIES IN YER HEAD. AN' THEY'RE JUST AS REAL TO YOU AS IF THEY WAS FLESH AND BLOOD.
THEY CAN KILL YOU.
SCARED?
NO.

TEN BLOCKS SOUTH, IN THE PLUSH PENT-HOUSE OF HEIRESS HEATHER GLENN...
TERRIFIC.
CAN'T EVEN WIN A SILLY GAME OF SOLITAIRE.
I WISH MATT WAS HERE.
NERVE OF THE MAN! I RISK MY LIFE TO HELP HIM FIND HIS TEACHER, AND WHAT DOES HE DO?
HE LOCKS HIMSELF AWAY IN HIS BROWN-STONE, AND WON'T EVEN LET ME VISIT! WON'T EVEN TELL ME WHEN HE'S COMING OUT! SOME LOVER HE'S TURNED OUT TO BE!
I'M WORRIED-- I'M ANGRY--
--I'M BORED.
OH, WELL. NO REASON TO PINE AWAY. THE WORLD DOESN'T BEGIN AND END WITH MATTHEW MURDOCK.
THIS IS NEW YORK CITY-- IT'S GOT PLENTY OF PLACES FOR A YOUNG LADY TO HAVE FUN--
--AND LOTS OF MEN TO PAY THE WAY.
RICO? HEATHER. GOT ANY PLANS TONIGHT?
YOU DO? WELL, CANCEL THEM!
THERE'S A CLUB IN SOHO I'VE BEEN DYING TO VISIT...

THE EDITORIAL OFFICES OF THE NEW YORK DAILY BUGLE...
ONLY ONCE IN A GENERATION IS THERE A CANDIDATE LIKE RANDOLPH WINSTON CHERRYH.
FIRST IN HIS GRADUATING CLASS AT WEST POINT...THREE TIMES DECORATED FOR VALOR IN THE KOREAN CONFLICT...AS COUNCILMAN, A DEDICATED, UNTIRING SOLDIER IN THE WAR AGAINST CRIME...
RANDOLPH WINSTON CHERRYH--THE NEXT MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK!
THIS YEAR, MAKE YOUR VOTE COUNT. VOTE LAW. VOTE ORDER.
VOTE CHERRYH.
KLIK
THIS HAS BEEN A PAID POLITICAL ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT--
J. JONAH JAMESON PUBLISHER
ROBBIE SAID YOU WANT TO SEE ME, MISTER JAMESON.
ANYTHING WRONG?
YEAH.
I JUST READ THE PROOF OF YOUR PIECE ON RANDOLPH CHERRYH. IT'S GOOD, BEN. IT'S REAL GOOD.
IN FACT, IT'S DYNAMITE--
--THE KIND THAT'LL BLOW UP RIGHT IN YOUR FACE.
YOU'VE CONNECTED ORGANIZED CRIME WITH EVERY MAJOR DECISION CHERRYH HAS MADE AS COUNCILMAN. THIS COULD COST HIM THE ELECTION--
--OR, IT COULD COST US THE BUGLE IF HE SUES.
HE'S A POPULAR MAN, BEN. GOT A LOT OF MONEY BEHIND HIM.
YOU WANT IT KILLED?
NO. JUST MAKE SURE OF YOUR FACTS.
VERY SURE.


WEDNESDAY.
SO TIRED... CAN BARELY PULL THE BOWSTRING...
IF I COULD JUST SLEEP... FOR AN HOUR OR TWO...
THAT LIGHT AGAIN!
NO--TWO OF THEM. NOT AS BRIGHT AS BEFORE. MORE LIKE... LIKE HEADLIGHTS...
A TRUCK! JUST LIKE THE ONE THAT...
OH, NO. NO...
CAUTION
RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS
YES, IT'S HAPPENING AGAIN-- THE ACCIDENT THAT COST ME MY SIGHT!
THAT OLD MAN-- HE'LL BE KILLED! AND IT'S UP TO ME TO SAVE HIM!
BUT IT'S JUST AN HALLUCINATION. I DON'T HAVE TO...

WHAT AM I THINKING? REAL OR NOT, HE'LL DIE IF I DON'T--
LOOK OUT, MISTER!
JAKE--THE CANNISTER!
GET IT KORF AWAY FROM THE FLAMES--OR IT'LL BLOW...
AHHHG-GGHHH!!
HE SAVED THAT MAN'S LIFE!
MOST HEROIC ACT I'VE EVER SEEN!
BUT THAT CYLINDER THAT STRUCK HIS FACE... IS... IT SOMETHING RADIOACTIVE?
HOW CAN I EVER REPAY YOU, SON? YOU SAVED MY--
YOU OLD FOOL!
LOOK WHAT YOU'VE DONE TO ME!
YOU BLINDED ME, YOU--

A MIDTOWN SKYSCRAPER...
"UNFORTUNATE"? IS THAT ALL YOU HAVE TO SAY?
I COULD LOSE THE ELECTION, BECAUSE OF THAT ARTICLE!
IT'S BEEN MY JOB TO SAY THE RIGHT THINGS TO THE RIGHT PEOPLE--TO BUILD MY REPUTATION AS A CHAMPION OF LAW AND ORDER.
AND IT'S BEEN YOUR JOB TO KEEP THIS SORT OF THING FROM HAPPENING.
BUGLE
CRIME!
YOU'VE BLOWN IT, SOMEONE IN YOUR ORGANIZATION IS TALKING, FEEDING THAT REPORTER NAMES AND DATES--
--AND IN FRONT OF FIVE MILLION DAILY BUGLE READERS HE'S CRUCIFYING ME!
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?
WELL?
SEE HERE, FAT MAN. YOU NEED ME.
THIS IS YOUR PROBLEM AS MUCH AS M--
HKKK--!
BE SILENT, CHERRYH.
YOU MAY WELL BECOME THE NEXT MAYOR OF THIS CITY, BUT, IN TRUTH, YOU ARE NO MORE THAN A SIMPERING SLAVE--
--IN THE SERVICE OF THE KINGPIN.
DO NOT WORRY ABOUT THE DAILY BUGLE. IT IS ONLY A NEWSPAPER, PRODUCED BY MEN WHO CAN BE BOUGHT--OR KILLED.
I SHALL ATTEND TO THIS.

THE STOREFRONT LAW OFFICES OF NELSON AND MURDOCK...
HOO BOY! SOME MESS, HUH?
I'M JUST GLAD YOU WEREN'T HERE WHEN THAT BOMB WENT OFF, BECKY.
YOU KNOW, IT'S KIND OF SYMBOLIC. THE WHOLE PLACE GOT BLASTED TO SMITHEREENS--
--JUST WHEN I WAS TELLING MATT THAT I'D FAILED TO DRUM UP THE FUNDS WE NEED TO KEEP US IN BUSINESS!
I BLEW IT BUT GOOD THIS TIME.
FOGGY, YOU CAN'T BLAME YOURSELF. YOU KNOW WHAT MATT SAID.
WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER. AND WE'LL WORK IT OUT-- TOGETHER.
YEAH, WELL. THAT'S MATT FOR YOU. MY PARTNER HASN'T GOT A VINDICTIVE BONE IN HIS BODY.
BUT WE'RE STILL OUT AN OFFICE. I WISH THERE WAS SOMETHING I COULD DO.
RING RING
HELLO, NELSON AND MURDOCK.
NO, SIR, MISTER MURDOCK IS NOT IN. THIS IS HIS ASSISTANT, BECKY BL--YES, SIR, MISTER NELSON IS RIGHT HERE. HE--YES, SIR.
FOGGY --IT'S J. JONAH JAMESON.
GOOD MORNING, MR. JAMESON. WHAT CAN I... YOU NEED A LAWYER? WELL, THAT'S US... NO, I DON'T THINK WE SHOULD MEET HERE...
YES, SIR, YOUR OFFICE, THEN. WE--
HELLO?

FRIDAY.
NO USE... SO TIRED...
I'VE FAILED, STICK. I CAN'T... I JUST CAN'T...
THWAKK
AGAIN.

DAD!
DRESSED IN YOUR BOXING GEAR...LIKE THE OLD DAYS, BEFORE YOU...
...BEFORE YOU DIED...
DAD, I--
-:WHIFF:-
YOU PROMISED ME, MATT!
YOU SAID YOU WOULDN'T FIGHT!
LOOK AT YOU--YOU'VE ALREADY BEEN IN MORE FIGHTS THAN I EVER WAS!
YOU'RE GONNA END UP JUST LIKE ME...A WORN OUT, USED UP OLD PUG, WITH A FACE LIKE A CATCHER'S MITT AND A BRAIN MADE OUTTA MUSH.
YOU LIED TO ME, SON, ON YOUR MOTHER'S GRAVE, YOU LIED TO ME!
DAD... IT'S NOT LIKE THAT...
AHHGGH!
THUNK
DAD!
DON'T DIE AGAIN, DAD. PLEASE NOT UNTIL YOU'VE FORGIVEN ME.
YOU JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND. IT'S NOT ENOUGH FOR ME TO JUST BE A LAWYER. THE WORLD NEEDS DAREDEVIL, DAD, TO KEEP OTHERS FROM BECOMING VICTIMS LIKE...LIKE YOU...
WAIT...WAIT A MINUTE.
IN REAL LIFE, A GANGSTER SHOT DAD WITH A GUN. THIS... THIS ARROW...WHAT?...
THE SCENARIO'S CHANGED, LAWYER MAN! YOU'RE NOT UP AGAINST SOME LOUSY GANGSTER THIS TIME.
OH, MY--
DON'T PRAY TO YOUR GOD. HE CAN'T HELP YOU HERE.

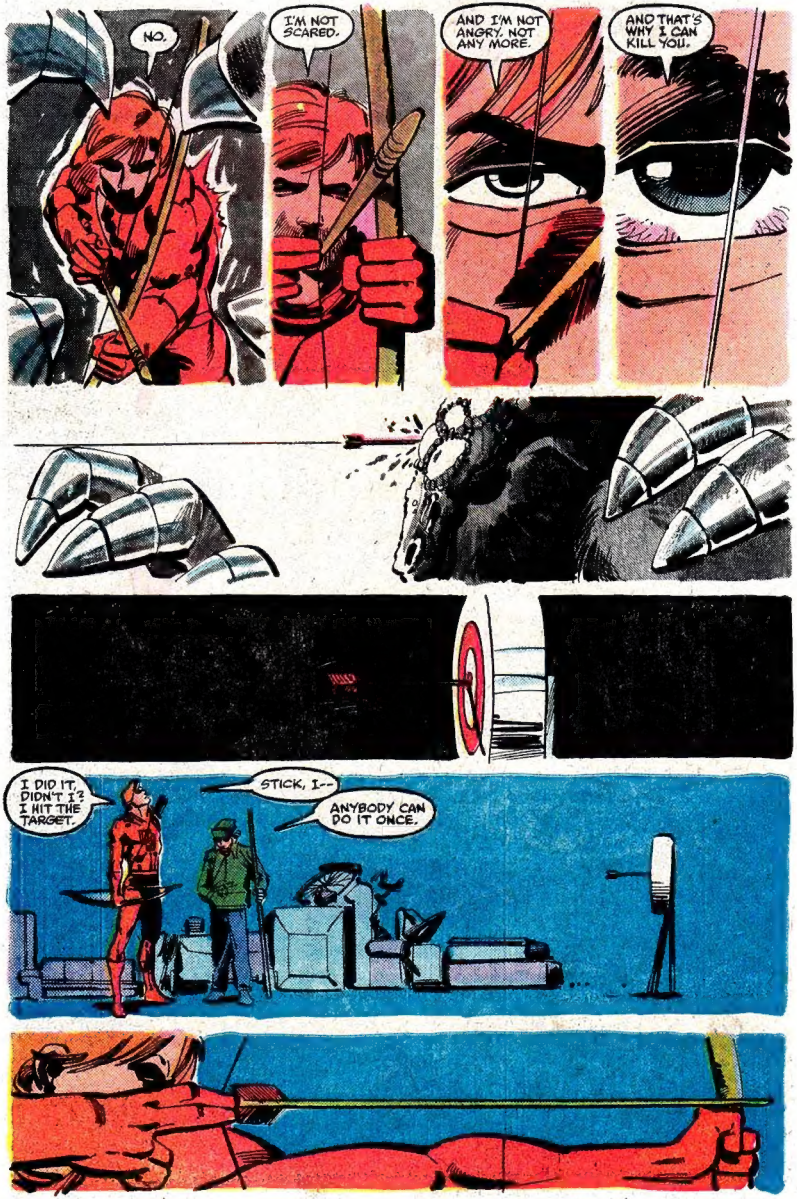
I'M YOUR OWN PRIVATE DEVIL, LAWYER MAN.
I'M EVERY PART OF YOU THAT HATES.
AND I'VE COME FOR YOU, LAWYER MAN.
THE DEVIL HAS COME TO TAKE HIS OWN!

THE EDITORIAL OFFICES OF THE NEW YORK DAILY BUGLE...
WHAT CAN WE DO FOR YOU, MR. JAMESON?
YOU READ TODAY'S BUGLE?
UH, NO. I'M A TIMES READER MYSELF...
HMPH.
IT'S LIKE THIS. WE RAN AN EXPOSE OF RANDOLPH CHERRYH AND HIS MOB CONNECTIONS. HE'S SUING US FOR OUR SHORTS, AND OUR NEWSPAPER.
I WANT YOU AND MURDOCK TO DEFEND US.
YOU CAUGHT US AT A BAD TIME, MR. JAMESON. MY PARTNER AND I ARE--SHALL WE SAY--BETWEEN OFFICES.
HOWEVER, IF YOU WERE TO ADVANCE US THE NECESSARY FUNDS TO OPEN A NEW OFFICE DOWNTOWN...
SPUTTER! YOU'RE TALKING THOUSANDS!
THIS IS A NEWSPAPER, NOT A BANK!
MR. JAMESON, YOU NEED THE BEST ATTORNEYS MONEY CAN BUY. AND THAT'S WHAT WE ARE.
YOU'VE HEARD OUR TERMS.
I'LL EXPECT YOUR CHECK MONDAY MORNING.
LET'S GO, BECKY.
J. JONAH JAMESON
PUBLISHER
CRUMMY WHEELER-DEALER SHYSTER...

A COCKTAIL PARTY...
GEORGIO, I'M SURE YOUR YACHT IS LOVELY. BUT HOW COULD I RUN OFF WITH A MAN I'VE ONLY KNOWN FOR THREE MINUTES?
MYSTERY ONLY HEIGHTENS THE EXCITEMENT, HEATHER.
WE MUST SEIZE THE MOMENT. THERE IS ONLY THE SUMMER NIGHT...THE HARVEST MOON...YOU AND I...
AND ME.
AND ME.
EASY, MEN. I'M A FLIRT, NOT A GYMNAST.
NICE TO SEE HEATHER GLENN BACK IN CIRCULATION.
BEEN SHOWING HER A GOOD TIME, RICO?
THE BEST.
AND SHE HASN'T SAID ONE WORD ABOUT MISTER MATTHEW MURDOCK ALL WEEK. GUESS SHE FINALLY WISED UP...
...AND DUMPED THAT STUFFY SHYSTER.
NOT THAT I'VE GOT ANYTHING AGAINST MURDOCK. I MEAN, HE'S A NICE GUY AND ALL.
BUT HE'S NO PARTY ANIMAL.
I MEAN, HOW CAN HE SHOW THE LADY A GOOD TIME WHEN HE CAN'T EVEN SEE--
HEY!
I'M GOING HOME, RICO.
DON'T TRY TO FOLLOW ME.

SOMEWHERE IN MATT MURDOCK'S MIND...
I'M GONNA EAT YOU ALIVE, LAWYER MAN.
SCARED?
THWOKK
GOOD, GOOD. I KNEW I COULD COUNT ON YOU TO HIT FIRST.
YOU'RE REAL ANGRY AT ME, AREN'T YOU, LAWYER MAN?
C'MON-- DON'T MAKE IT EASY!
THWAKK
WHUDD
THAT'S IT. THAT'S IT.
REMEMBER HOW IT FELT, MATTIE BOY? REMEMBER WHEN THE NEIGHBORHOOD KIDS TEASED YOU, KNOCKED YOU DOWN? REMEMBER WHEN YOUR FATHER DIED?
EVERY TIME YOU FEEL THAT WAY, YOU MAKE ME STRONGER... BIGGER...
AND NOW, I'M GONNA KILL YOU!

CHOK
I LOVE IT!
YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL. YOU REALLY ARE.
AND I'VE GOTTA THANK YOU. YOU'VE MADE ME WHAT I AM TODAY.
THIS IS THE END, MATTIE BOY.
I'M GONNA RIP THE FLESH FROM YOUR BONES. PIECE BY PIECE.
SCARED?


NO.
I'M NOT SCARED.
AND I'M NOT ANGRY. NOT ANY MORE.
AND THAT'S WHY I CAN KILL YOU.
I DID IT. DIDN'T I? I HIT THE TARGET!
STICK, I--
ANYBODY CAN DO IT ONCE.

THUNK
THUNK
THUNK
I CAN FEEL IT, STICK. EVERYTHING. THE TARGET. YOU.
HOW CAN I EVER THANK YOU?
DON'T LET IT GO TO YER HEAD, PUNK. YER STILL A A STEP AWAY FROM GETTIN' IT ALL BACK.
CONCENTRATE. REACH OUT WITH YER MIND. YER GONNA GET YER RADAR BACK--
--OR YER GONNA DIE.
FAPP
THUNK

A MIDTOWN SKYSCRAPER...
THESE PICTURES WERE TAKEN BY OUR PLANT IN THE POLICE HOMICIDE SQUAD, BOSS.
YOU'RE LOOKIN' AT WHAT REMAINS OF THE NINJA ASSASSIN GROUP KNOW AS THE HAND, WHEN THEY MOVED IN ON OUR TERRITORY, YOU MANEUVERED THEM INTO COMBAT AGAINST DAREDEVIL, WITHOUT HIM KNOWING IT.
THESE ARE SIX HIGHLY TRAINED ASSASSINS. THEY'RE ALL DEAD.
SO ARE THE LEADER OF THE HAND AND THESE MEN, HIS PERSONAL GUARD.
ELEVEN STIFFS, TOTAL.
DAREDEVIL DID NOT DO THIS. HE IS NOT A KILLER.
RIGHT. AND THAT'S WHERE IT ALL GETS REAL INTERESTING.
IT WAS A LADY--A FORMER NINJA HERSELF--THAT DID THEM IN. LOUIE TOOK THESE SHOTS OF HER WHEN SHE HUNTED THE LAST OF THEM DOWN OUTSIDE OF DUKE'S POOL HALL.
SO WE CHECKED HER OUT. HER NAME'S ELEKTRA. SHE'S A MERCENARY, A BOUNTY HUNTER, AND A KILLER-FOR-HIRE. AS YOU CAN SEE, SHE'S THE BEST AT IT SINCE BULLSEYE. AND HE'S DOING TIME.
ANY INSTRUCTIONS?
YES. FIND HER.
NEXT ISSUE: PAPER CHASE!

DEVIL'S ADVOCATE

c/o MARVEL COMICS GROUP
575 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10022

DENNIS O'NEIL
EDITOR
RALPH MACCHIO
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I had just finished school for the day, and was about to take a long, lonely bus ride home. A stop at the corner store; X-MEN sold out, MOON KNIGHT got already, BATMAN ditto... DAREDEVIL? Hmmm. On a whim I bought the two issues available, 170 and 171.

Before quitting comics twelve years ago, I loved DD's adventures. Yet when I came back to the fold in late '79, he didn't make my buying list. I regret it now.

No comic on the market has the flowing action DD has. When our hero runs from the elevated highway to Turk's watering hole, we see how he gets there. It follows from one panel to the next, and makes more sense than seemingly random shots of someone swinging on a web or bat-rope. Same thing for the fight scenes. People are where they should be, not transplanted haphazardly by the artist's imagination or carelessness. Take a look at the Ninja fight scenes in 174.

The storytelling is fine also — consider the guts of 173 — it could have been preachy, but the sense of urgency throughout, especially in Matt's final plea to Becky, prevents it.

Frank Miller, you have a marvelous clarity of mind. Thank you, Denny O'Neil and Klaus Janson, for giving me the only comic to stand up to adolescent memories of excellence.

Sherif Laoun
5553 Cavendish
Montreal, Quebec H4V 1S1
Canada

Dear Denny, Frank, and Klaus,

Perhaps the word "excellent" has been overused in describing some works of art, but, in truth, I think the adjective was created exclusively for Frank Miller's DAREDEVIL. Since Frank began writing this comic, it has achieved a new standard of — you guessed it — excellence. Not only does Matthew Murdock act like a real lawyer now, but he actually behaves like a rational, caring human being. The conflicts he has faced, the foes he has fought, all resemble some dark part of our world that he strives to correct, either as a crackerjack lawyer in the courts or as the swashbuckling adventurer Daredevil. Yet, no longer is he swinging through the moonlit skies merely seeking deadly thrills. Now, he embraces danger, with a sense of duty, of import, unparalleled by any other darknight hero. The Batman prowls with a passion, enacting vengeance for death itself. Moon Knight stalks the underworld with a supernatural air about him, as if it is his destiny to confront evil. But it is Daredevil alone who is the most law-abiding, most merciful, and most interesting crimefighter of them all.

In closing, I'd like to point out that while excellence is something new to this mag, it seems to accept it most naturally, indeed. Long live Daredevil!

Stu Krull
28 Kettle Creek Rd
Freehold, NJ 07728

Friends,

DAREDEVIL 174: The assassination of Matt Murdock. Elektra. Legal problems. Abductions and rescues. Foggy in tears. Ninja attacking in the dark, while for Daredevil it *is* dark — always. Attacks. Assassinations. Tribulations.

Elektra!

Shall I roll on my back and wag my tail? Curl up on a pillow and purr? Chirp a song? There must be some way to express my delight with DAREDEVIL 174. Maybe I'll write a letter.

Or maybe I'll just reread the comic.

Elizabeth Holden
120 Lewis St., Apt. 2
Ottawa, Ontario K2P 0S7
Canada

Dear Mr. Miller,

I normally detest saying something rotten about someone, especially something vehement which they will surely dislike, but I felt that I must. GET OFF THE DAREDEVIL BOOK!

Daredevil, since the day I picked up my first comic, DD 129, has been far away my favorite character, and my favorite book. But these past issues, with you as the creative force, have been hell for me. You have perverted everything that was once good in DD. His sense of justice has been totally warped — else why would he even hesitate to save a human life, even though it was scum like Bullseye?

DAREDEVIL used to be Marvel's best book. It could easily display disturbing social issues, and address the causes with feeling. Both as Matt Murdock and as Daredevil, the hero would fight to help those hit hard by injustice or wrong in this world. DAREDEVIL lent itself to that sort of story beautifully. Witness issues 70 and 71. A man who called himself Tribune decided to make the rest of America live up to his own warped version of American ideals and democratic processes by subjecting anyone he disliked to an unjust trial in which he was the judge, the jury, and the executioner. This was perhaps the finest example of social relevancy writing that I have ever read, and I commend Gary Friedrich and Roy Thomas for that story.

But what do you put in your stories? A DD who is worried about the lives of the people he protects? No. You portray a man who is grimly determined to wipe out the criminal element through any means possible, including heavy violence which he seems to thrive on. Notice, as only one example, the terrorist tactics he uses on Turk in 172. Also, as a more graphic representation of the vicious level to which Daredevil has sunk, issue 173, p. 26, the fight scene. Daredevil is seen engaging in his sadomasochistic sport, and he loves it. Look at that last panel, the sheer bloodlust that he radiates. I must say that is one thing you are very good at, portraying vicious emotions.

Perhaps Marvel has a shortage of writers at the moment, so they had to get artists to double. If that's the case, then I commend you for your efforts. But your product is as poor as ever.

Peter Ivanick
43 Mark Lane
New City, New York 10956

Dear Frank, Klaus and Glynis,

Hooboy, this is good. Nonstop thrills page after page. The return of ELEKTRA! Hurry up 30 days.

But let's get sedate for a moment, folks. Having the Gladiator fight against the baddies for a change was really a stroke of genius. I can't recall any writer who's taken a hard-core super-villain (Swordsman and Sub-Mariner don't count as this), and actually reformed him. Too often villains are given no character whatsoever, but just represented as mindless world-beaters, never learning from their mistakes.

Talk about bringing Elektra back with a vengeance! Her fight scenes, dialogue, even thought patterns are clipped and precise to, incredibly enough, heighten her mystery as it is further detailed. How you're going to continue with this character is driving me crazy with speculation, but PLEASE tread lightly if you intend to compromise Elektra for mainstream superherodom.

Frank, it seems you have finally struck the balance in your artist/writer workload. Best of luck in meeting up with it.

Good as the art is, though, those colors are bloody striking. The shades and tints of blue, green and violet seem filled with latent violence.

What a team! Hurry up 30!

Kevin E. Patterson
2215 Hammond Lake Drive
West Bloomfield, MI 48033

NEXT ISSUE:

DAREDEVIL! POWER MAN! IRON FIST!

ELEKTRA! The KINGPIN!

We call it "Paper Chase" — and it's yours, in thirty days!